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**FLOWER MOUND RANKS 7TH
AMONG MOST TECHNOLOGY-AD-
VANCED CITIES**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Flower Mound, TX, for being acknowledged as the 7th most technology-advanced city with a population of 30,000 to 74,999, by the Center for Digital Government. The ranking was based on the 2004 Digital Cities Survey that examines how city governments are using digital technology to become more efficient and communicate with residents.

The survey and ranking determined by the Center asked more than 600 mayors, managers and chief information officers to participate asking 24 questions focusing on implementation, adoption of online service delivery, planning and governance, and the network that allows cities to make the move to digital government.

Flower Mound plans to continue on its track of providing excellent government services electronically by installing a new data delivery system; implementing a voiceover internet tool; and adding mobile computer systems into the Flower Mound Police Department squad cars. All of these improvements show an amazing commitment to the future of technology and government.

I am proud to say that I am a resident of Flower Mound, and I would like to offer my congratulations to the Town of Flower Mound, Chief Information Officer Dustin Malcolm and Mayor Jody Smith.

**ORGANIC FARMING IS ALIVE AND
THRIVING IN VERMONT**

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of this body, and the Nation, the wonderful work that has been done by the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA), and in particular the wonderful work its affiliate does in Vermont.

In a time when the family farm is under great destructive pressures, in a time when agribusiness blindly ignores the potential for damage that accompanies chemical pesticides and GMOs, in a time when corporate agriculture ignores the need to sustain and replenish the soil that sustains life, there are those who fight to maintain a good, healthy, ongoing source of food for all of us.

NOFA Vermont has been fighting, and continues to fight, for family farms, for responsible husbandry of the soil, for a secure and healthful food supply.

NOFA Vermont has been in existence for over 30 years, and is one of the oldest organic

farming associations in the entire United States. The Vermont chapter, one of seven state chapters in the northeastern region of the United States, currently has over 1,000 members. It has been a sustaining force for the 333 certified organic growers and producers in our New England state. They sell their produce and products in 52 farmers markets in Vermont, to local groceries and food stores, to grocery chains operating in Vermont, and indeed to distributors nationwide. In an especially noteworthy development, they have forged new relations with local buyers, and new distribution networks, through the formation of 42 Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farms which provide food directly to consumers on an ongoing and regular basis.

NOFA Vermont's dual commitment is to local agriculture and to organic agriculture. It strives to be a steward of the soil, a preserver of the ongoing vitality of the environment, a proponent for healthy and nutritious foods. Through education, organic certification and technical assistance it strengthens the agricultural community in Vermont. Through its efforts to sustain community food security, and to promote both the marketing of organic products and the development of new markets, like the farmers markets and CSAs I mentioned a few minutes ago, it builds a stronger presence for healthful foods in Vermont.

It is important that we take time to recognize the individuals and organizations which not only nourish—in every way—our present, but look forward with vision to creating a strong and sustainable world for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren. NOFA Vermont, and its hundreds of members, nourish us and show us the shape of a vital, vibrant and human-centered future.

**HONORING PACIFIC NORTHWEST
NATIONAL LABORATORY**

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on January 4, 1965, Battelle was selected by the federal government to manage and operate what was then called the Hanford Laboratories, and is now called the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. I congratulate PNNL as it celebrates its 40th anniversary. PNNL is a unique asset to my congressional district, to Washington State, to the Pacific Northwest and to the entire nation.

In 1965, Battelle committed to create a robust research operation in the State of Washington. It has absolutely delivered on its commitment. In the last 40 years, the number of staff at the lab has tripled, and business has increased from \$20 million in 1965 to more than \$600 million in 2004. As a leader in innovation, PNNL is an enduring asset in the Tri-Cities with many spinoff companies and technologies. As such, the laboratory continues to build collaborations with the region's colleges and universities and other scientific enterprises.

With major contributions to national science and technology programs, especially in recent

years on homeland and national security, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is a valuable national asset and a vital part of regional efforts to create better jobs and strengthen our economy.

Since 1965, Battelle has contributed more than \$13 million to not-for-profit organizations in the region. Battelle has also invested more than \$125 million in facilities and equipment at its campus in Richland. And as testimony to its excellent stewardship of the lab, PNNL continues to receive "Outstanding" ratings for management of the lab by the Department of Energy. It recently received its seventh consecutive Outstanding rating.

As we look back on this exceptional record, we can also look forward with anticipation to Battelle's continued leadership at PNNL. With the world class staff and resources at the lab, and Battelle's excellent management, there is no limit to what can be done.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by sharing the strong feelings that all of us have in the Tri-Cities and the State of Washington—Battelle is a great employer, a great corporate citizen, and we look forward to many more years of its presence and commitment to a better Washington, a prosperous Pacific Northwest, and a safer world.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO COACH G.A.
MOORE ON RETIRING AS TEXAS'
ALL-TIME MOST WINNING COACH**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach G.A. Moore, Texas' all-time winningest high school football coach, on his retirement.

Coach Moore won over 412 victories and 8 state championships in 42 seasons. Moore coached 39 of his 42 seasons at two places, Pilot Point, Texas, in my district and his alma mater, and in Celina, Texas. Mr. Moore also ranks an impressive 3rd on the nation's all-time wins list, and most recently led Pilot Point to an 8–3 record this season.

I congratulate Dr. Boothe for his lasting dedication to the honored Texas tradition of high school football. Best wishes to Coach Moore on his retirement.

**JUSTICE AND EQUITY FOR MEM-
BERS OF THE UNITED STATES
MERCHANT MARINE**

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 4, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to correct an injustice that has been inflicted upon a group of World War II veterans, the World War II United States Merchant Mariners.

World War II Merchant Mariners suffered the highest casualty rate of any of the branches of service while they delivered